

Amusements Co-Night.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2nd rehearsal.
 MUSIC OPERA HOUSE—8:15—“Virginia.”
 BOOTH'S THEATRE—8—“The Corsican Brothers.”
 DAILY'S THEATRE—8:15—“Our English Friend.”
 GRAND OPERA THEATRE—8—“The New Macbeth.”
 HAVELLY'S 14TH STREET THEATRE—8—“Fritz.”
 HENDERSON'S STANDARD THEATRE—8:15—“Iolanthe.”
 NIEL'S GARDEN—8—“White Slave.”
 SAN FRANCISCO OPERA HOUSE—8—San Francisco Minstrels.
 THALIA THEATRE—8—“William Tell.”
 THEATRE COMIQUE—8—“Mascotte's Infatuation.”
 THE CASINO—8—“The Queen's Love Handkerchief.”
 UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—“A Parisian Romance.”
 WALLACK'S THEATRE—8—“Our.”

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Business Notices.

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New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1883.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Owing to the devastation caused by the floods there is danger of a famine in Hungary.
 —Edwin Booth played Hamlet last evening in Berlin and was enthusiastically received.
 —A decision against Mr. Bradlaugh has been given in his action against the Deputy-Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons.
 —Mr. Lawes has applied for a new trial of the libel suit which was brought against him by Mr. Bell, and which was won by the latter.
 —The examination of the anarchists in Lyons has ended.
 —CONGRESS.—In the Senate yesterday the amendment to the Fitz John Porter bill providing that General Porter shall receive no pay, compensation or allowance prior to his reinstatement, was agreed to; a motion to postpone the bill indefinitely was lost, yeas 24, nays 31; the bill was passed by a vote of 33 to 27. The consideration of the Tariff bill was resumed.
 —In the House the Shipping bill was considered; Mr. Chandler's free-trade amendment to the committee substitute for the eighteenth section of the bill was agreed to by a vote of 125 to 104.
 —DOMESTIC.—None of the bodies burned in the Milwaukee fire was recovered yesterday; the number killed is yet unknown.
 —The annual meeting of the Board of Regents was begun in Albany.
 —Two men were killed by an explosion in Brookhaven, Miss.
 —William Brush, the supposed murderer of his wife in Stratford, Conn., was arrested.
 —The Republican Senatorial Conference was held in Boston, but a formal vote was not taken.
 —Attorney-General Palmer, of Pennsylvania, rendered a decision against the Western Union in regard to the purchase or consolidation of competing lines.
 —Theodore Thomas filed a bill in equity in the United States Courts enjoining Joseph G. Leunon from producing “The Redemption” in Boston.
 —CITY AND SUBURBAN.—Miss Livingston was awarded a verdict for \$75,000 yesterday in her suit against Henry Fleming in Brooklyn.
 —Garret S. Botes, the dishonest bank official of Jersey City, was locked up in default of bail.
 —The 7th Regiment ball took place.
 —The Chamber of Commerce and the Maritime Exchange discussed Congressional bills affecting shipping interests.
 —A society was formed to secure the preservation of Niagara Falls.
 —A summons was issued by Justice Duffy for Henry Prouss Cooper.
 —Gold value of the legal tender silver dollar (412½ grains), 84.33 cents.
 —Stocks were dull and fluctuated within narrow limits, and closed featureless.

THE WEATHER.—TRIBUNE local observations indicate clear or fair weather, with slight changes in temperature. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 19°; lowest, 0°; average, 13°.

The Fitz John Porter bill passed the Senate yesterday. But the vote was so close, yeas 33, nays 27, that the General's friends will hardly feel like crowing very loudly over the result. The bill has still to run the gauntlet of the House, so as yet it is impossible to determine what its ultimate fate will be.

The courts decline to hear Mr. Charles Bradlaugh's grievous wounds inflicted upon him by the House of Commons. He brought an action against the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms who forcibly prevented his entrance to the House after the House had declared by resolution that he should not sit for Northampton. There will not be a little curiosity to see what his next move will be.

The Tammany members of the State Senate have retreated from the position of aggressive, not to say cantankerous, independence which they occupied last session. Yesterday the Anti-Tammany lion opened its mouth and gave them a cordial invitation to come into it and be swallowed. They accepted the invitation—in other words, they voted to make John C. Jacobs President pro tem of the Senate. The terms offered by the lion are not made known, but they doubtless were generous.

We lately took occasion to call attention to the fact that the Democratic members of Congress seemed to be laboring this session to prevent the passage of the measures of large importance in which the public is supposed to be most interested. The action of the Democrats of the Senate yesterday on the grave subject of tariff revision can hardly be explained save on the theory that they wish to defeat the revision. Those who are engaged in playing

this disreputable game of obstruction must not be so foolish as to imagine that the public does not understand what is going on. They are sowing the wind and some of these days must expect to reap the whirlwind.

The Senatorial contest in Massachusetts excites much interest all over the country. The feeling in favor of Mr. Hoar's reelection is very strong, but Governor Loug has many ardent and influential friends in and out of the Legislature who are earnestly laboring for his promotion. Our dispatches from Boston indicate that the canvass will be long and closely contested. It looks to Republicans at large as if the good Old Bay State would miss it if she did not make Hoar his own successor. He has certainly rendered her good and faithful service. Doubtless he has made mistakes. But has Massachusetts any servant, public or private, that have not? No new man could succeed to his experience, influence or efficiency.

Last week Senator Covert introduced a resolution which has been generally interpreted as demonstrating that he justly ungendered and thirsted for the full fruition of Civil Service Reform. Yesterday he called up the resolution only to assert, in substance, that he was opposed to any scheme of Civil Service Reform that was inconsistent with the good old Democratic doctrine “to the victor belongs the spoils.” Under the circumstances we are at a loss to determine whether Mr. Covert is a demagogue. During the lively debate on the resolution Senator McCarthy was cruel enough to remind his Democratic associates that their leader, Governor Cleveland, had evinced his devotion for Civil Service Reform by removing the Pardon Clerk of the Executive Department, who had served with efficiency and fidelity during the five previous administrations.

It will be seen from our Washington dispatches that Mr. Martin, of the sub-committee appointed by the Republican National Convention to report a plan of calling the next Republican National Convention, does not agree with Messrs. Chandler and Forbes of the Committee. Mr. Forbes does not see eye to eye with Mr. Chandler, but as THE TRIBUNE has already pointed out, they are likely to favor the same plan. The plan gives to each State four delegates at-large, two delegates for each Congressional district, three additional delegates at-large for each Republican Senator and three for each Republican Representative in the Congress existing when the Convention is held. Mr. Martin proposes to give each State two delegates at-large, each Congressional district one delegate and each State one delegate for every 12,000 Republican votes cast for President in 1880. This plan is based on the theory that representation in the National Convention ought to be based not on population but on Republican votes. There are good features in both these plans. It is earnestly to be hoped that the matter will be finally disposed of at the approaching meeting of the full Committee. It has been delayed too long already.

METHODS OF TAXATION.

Certainly the burdens of taxation ought to be reduced. But what are the burdens of taxation? How many people are there who have ever felt them, or can tell what they are? Perhaps it might be profitable for members of Congress and others to get out of the common rut of thoughtless “taking things for granted,” and to consider for a minute what are the burdens of taxation which ought to be removed.

Certain people, having more money than they need, please to buy whiskey, beer, cigars and tobacco. In the price, they pay a tax which amounted last year to \$133,419,317. It is safe to say that no man of all the millions who have bought these articles during the past year was aware that he was bearing a burden. Nor can anybody say how much cheaper, if any, these articles would be to retail buyers were the tax entirely removed. A large part of the difference in cost, it is certain, would be absorbed by the retail sellers, and added to their profits. But the money, when collected, does not go out of existence or out of the country. It is distributed again, each week or each month, in paying the expenses of Government—in buying up its bonds, thus stopping forever a part of the burden now borne. Last year more than the whole amount taken from consumers of liquors and tobacco was expended in redeeming three and one-half per cent bonds, so that the tax paid really diminished the burden to be borne by the people to the extent of \$4,650,000 yearly for all time to come. All the people, rich and poor, east and west, get the benefit. The people who want to use liquors and tobacco unconsciously contribute, partly to their own permanent benefit—for they form a large portion of the whole people—and partly to the permanent benefit of others. If the tax were removed they might consume more liquor and more tobacco, but would put away no part of the cost for their own good or that of the country.

Then there is the duty on manufactured goods, which those pay who consume foreign products. About \$90,000,000 was collected last year from consumers of foreign iron and steel, wool and woolsens, cotton and silk goods. In almost every branch cheaper but equally serviceable articles of domestic make can be had, if the consumers prefer. In some cases the consumer chooses the foreign product as a material to mix with other of home production, because it has especial utility; in other cases he prefers to pay the tax in order to have a foreign rather than a domestic product. In either case no home product is necessarily enhanced in price by the duty; that happens only where articles of similar character and cost are sought for similar uses, and such cases are rare. But here is a tax, on the face of it about \$90,000,000, and including enhancement in cost of some domestic products, a somewhat larger sum, which we pay, for what? We support the Government and pay debt with it, and we also sustain and stimulate important manufactures, which give to millions of workers better wages than they could get in any other country.

The money that goes into the Treasury and comes out again, like the revenue from the whiskey tax, is contributed by those who use foreign products, and used for the benefit of all. They get part of the benefit and all other people a part. But the indirect benefit secured by building up great industries goes to all the people in the end. For all finally get cheaper goods because the home manufactures are able to attain a vigorous development. There is no doubt that the country has to bear some burden for this purpose—a burden to some extent greater than if the same revenue should be raised by taxes on whiskey. But it also gets an enormous benefit which does not arise from any internal tax.

Which would be the better, to raise part of the revenue as we do now, in such a mode as to stimulate and build up home industries, or to raise two-thirds more revenue from liquors and tobacco, and let manufacturers of iron, wool, cotton and silk go down unless they can sustain themselves in equal competition with the cheaper labor of other countries? Having been built up for more than twenty years by means of the defence which import duties give, these manufactures would of necessity be protected if the duties should be removed. But no sane and intelligent man really hopes to see the people strike down their industries in this fashion, unless they can be brought to do so unconsciously and unintentionally. The thing that men do propose, and hope to accomplish, is to take off enough of the duties to render the tariff no longer protective, under pretence of removing burdens.

Now there is no necessity of touching either of these sources of revenue. The duties that yield revenue and also protect industry, though they may be advantageously modified, can stand in the main without doing anybody any harm, for the burdens are not felt while the benefits are witnessed in the marvellous development of our industries. The taxes that men pay who use liquors and tobacco, in like manner, benefit the whole country, while the burdens that they impose are not felt by consumers. But there are other taxes which do embarrass industry and commerce; taxes which are felt by all consumers and affect all industry. The minor internal taxes, yielding about \$13,000,000, are burdensome, and so are many of the duties on imports. It would be easy to take off taxes amounting to more than \$100,000,000, if Congress please, without essentially changing the protective duties or lessening the revenue from liquors and tobacco. The Government cannot spare so much of its revenue, but all that it can spare can be taken from burdens which bring with them no blessings, and which are felt by the people. Is not that the rational course to prefer?

UNEASY BUTLER.

General Butler, it is reported, is already tired of being Governor and wishes to be elected Senator. All he seems to have cared about the Governorship was the chance it gave him to whack his political enemies over the head in his inaugural address. He would much rather ride the reform attempted by others than begin any of his own. He has found out that his career as Governor is likely to be a very ordinary one in spite of all he can do to make it sensational, and that he cannot accumulate much Presidential capital in that way. His inaugural address made considerable of a commotion, but it offended a great many more people than it pleased. In his desire to make the most of the opportunity, he overdid the sensational part of the business. The demagogue in him overshadowed the statesman; he unconsciously showed himself to be not so much a reformer as a destroyer. His absurd effort to placate the women by proposing an impossible and preposterous plan for arriving at their opinion on the suffrage question was a complete failure. He made his dose of “tally” so large that they have rejected it with scorn and contempt. Henceforth they will be numbered among his enemies. In fact, the chief effect of his address has been to make Massachusetts thoroughly mad, and when the State gets into that wholesome condition it is always a cold season for her enemies.

There are symptoms that the General suspects something of this kind. He is a tolerably acute person and cannot help seeing that it is going to be no easy task for him to make a record as a “reform” Governor with nearly the whole press of the State hostile to him, and with a majority against him in the Legislature. He is willing, therefore, to have his career as Governor cut short and merged into that of Senator. So rapid an advance from one office to another would attract attention and might impress some people with a belief that the General had begun the ascent and could not be stopped till he reached the Presidential chair. Butler apparently has some such notion in mind. He has carried Massachusetts by storm, and he hopes to carry the country in the same way. He is a candidate of the sky-rocket, fireworks order. His conviction has always been that the ignorant and thoughtless constitute a large majority of the voting population, and that if he can win their support, no matter by what means, all will go well with him. This is why he plays the demagogue so persistently. This is why he said at the Jackson banquet on Monday that instead of “to the victors belong the spoils,” his motto was “to the Government belongs to its friends.” That was a notification to the hungry Democracy that if they made Butler their candidate for President and elected him they would have the kind of Civil Service Reform their hearts yearn for.

Is there any chance for this political juggler to get into the Senate from Massachusetts? We can see none. The Republicans have over fifty majority on joint ballot, and that in itself ought to be an insurmountable obstacle to his ambition. Some of the Republicans might vote for him on the ground that it would be a good thing for the State to get him out of the Governor's chair, but it is not likely that many of them will take that short-sighted view. He will in all probability be forced to serve out his term for Governor, and will get very tired of it. He is amusing himself now by going to the State House at half-past 8 in the morning and trying in vain to find some of the minor officials of the State in their offices at that time. This is a very cheap display of zeal for the welfare of the people, and the fact that a “great reform Governor” has to resort to it is pretty good evidence that he is short of sensational material. The General is too uneasy. He can never win a Presidential nomination by showing such “uncommon anxiety” for it.

REPUBLICAN REORGANIZATION.

We have a word for the Republicans of the metropolis who decline to follow where the gonfalon of Johnny O'Brien leads, who fail to find Steve French a trustworthy political mentor, who are not profoundly impressed with the statesmanship of which Barney Biglin is a shining exponent. Fellow-Republicans who are dissatisfied and disgusted with the way the party is manipulated in New-York, what are you going to do about it? Republican organization in this great city is but another name for the most intolerant form of bossism. It had its origin in a corrupt determination to advance the interests of the machine. It has been and is being perpetuated for no larger or worthier purpose.

The charge was once made against certain Democratic leaders that they favored keeping their party as small as possible, in order that their own influence might be as large as possible. The same indictment lies against our local Republican “leaders.” Apparently they have no other aim than the furtherance of the fortunes of a faction and the feathering of their own nests. They are perfectly well aware that the district organizations are conducted in such a manner as practically to exclude the majority of the Republicans of the city from membership therein. But the realization of this fact does not disturb them in the least. The will of the majority is of infinitely less account to them than the will of a few self-constituted, self-perpetuating, self-seeking bosses. It is a deplorable state of things, and obviously ought to be remedied without delay.

But it will not remedy itself. If the Republicans of New-York do not themselves strike the blow, they must expect in the future, as in the past, to have no part nor lot in the guidance of party affairs; to see delegations sent to the local and State conventions which represent nobody except the bosses and the bosses' narrow and selfish policy. Experience has shown that it is useless to hope that the district associations will be reformed from the inside. O'Brien, French & Co. have neither the taste nor the talent for that sort of work. What then? Shall the State Convention be looked to for redress? But the State Convention has been looked to in vain. The convention that met in this city in 1881 was formally and fervently requested to take steps looking to reorganization. But the effort failed. Mr. George Bliss, who had cried and spouted not in behalf of such reform when reform was impossible, going over to the enemy just as soon as it appeared to be not only possible but probable. History is apt to repeat itself in a political convention as elsewhere, so that if the Republicans of New-York wait for such a tribunal to right their wrongs they may wait for the rest of this century. Some of our friends, after condemning the course pursued by those who manage the local Republican machine, add for comfort that a radical correction of the abuses of which they complain is only “a question of time.” But we beg to remind all such that reforms which are set down as only a question of time as a rule turn out to be a question of so much time that those who wait for them to be brought about commonly “die without the sight.”

And therefore it is that we call upon all Republicans in the metropolis who feel the need of local party reorganization to help themselves. Well considered concerted action will accomplish all that they wish. If they do nothing except talk then this year will witness a repetition of the familiar programme—the machine will continue to run over them and they will continue to file vigorous but ineffectual protests against such treatment. This is an off season in politics and therefore an excellent time to set about the task. It is a task that ought to be done without delay and which will redound to the credit of all who engage in it.

NOT AN UNEXPECTED TRAGEDY.

One of the most exasperating features of the hotel fire in Milwaukee is the fact that the catastrophe was not unexpected. A liberal allowance must be made for a tendency on the part of human nature to exaggerate suspicious which have been suddenly and conspicuously confirmed. Men are apt to plume themselves upon their clairvoyant intuitions respecting appalling calamities. A collision in a railway tunnel, the collapse of a suspension bridge, a stampede in a theatre or the destruction of a large hotel, invariably brings to light an abnormal degree of suspiciousness on the part of the community. No mention is made of the fact in Holy Writ, but undoubtedly when the tower in St. Louis fell there were wisecracks in the neighborhood who did not think of anybody's sins, but sagged their heads and muttered that they had always expected it, and had taken pains for many years to cross over and pass at a safe distance on the other side. In like manner every catastrophe finds a section of the local public fully prepared for it. As soon as the dread event happens thousands are ready to exclaim that it is precisely what they have been secretly fearing or even publicly predicting. There is probably only one man in ten thousand whose dread of an accident on the elevated railways will subject him day and night to the annoyance and delay of street-car travel for long distances; but if a serious loss of life should occur not only the one man but a large majority of the ten thousand would become preternaturally wise and suspicious after the event, and declare that it was only what they had been convinced would happen sooner or later, and that the only cause for surprise was that it had not happened before. Belated prophecy of this sort is not the best evidence of human foresight. There is a great mass of it in Milwaukee to-day, respecting Wednesday's calamity, which does not deserve serious attention. But when a most elastic allowance is made for this tendency on the part of human nature to magnify its apprehensions and to exalt its judgment on supreme occasions, the fact remains that this catastrophe had been foreseen by cautious business men and experienced observers. It was not an unexpected tragedy.

This statement is grounded not only upon the action of the insurance companies in taking risks at exceptionally high rates and in recently threatening to throw over the building altogether, but upon the testimony of an experienced man who was thoroughly acquainted with the dangerous character of the property. Mr. Bonnell, who was formerly the proprietor of the Newhall House, has told a TRIBUNE reporter that he, and many others as well, had expected that the structure would be destroyed precisely as it has been. It had all the interior arrangements required for a real conflagration. The partitions were of wood and plaster and were hollow, so that when the fire was once kindled it ran like electricity through the house. The floors being of flimsy material, and not separated by layers of concrete from the ceilings below, there were no obstructions to the progress of the flames. Outside, the Milwaukee brick afforded a fair degree of protection from fire, as was proved a year ago when a building diagonally opposite was burned; but inside there was an enormous mass of timber ready in an instant to flash into flame and to become an utterly unmanageable bonfire. This is substantially the description of the hotel given by one of its former managers. It he evinced little surprise when he was informed of the terrible loss of life, it was because he was in a large measure prepared to believe that whenever the hotel should catch fire there would be no chance of escape from the upper floors. Apparently this belief was shared by many cautious business men in Milwaukee.

This is, we repeat, the most exasperating feature of this sickening calamity. It was not unexpected. Prudent and experienced men, knowing whereof they were speaking, had said to themselves and to one another, “One of these days that hive of human life will be burned like a flash, and up there at the top there will be no way of getting out!” Insurance men recognized the insecurity of the property by raising their rates. The hotel was considered one of the most dangerous structures in the city. Yet it was allowed to stand until guests and servants were at last overwhelmed by the agonizing fate which had been so long in men's thoughts and on their tongues. Morals may be drawn from the disaster by the score. If any buildings in the world should be made fire-proof, hotels should be. If any buildings should be constructed with special reference to slow rather than rapid combustion, hotels should be. If any buildings should be systematically watched night and day by an ample force of trained firemen, hotels should be. These are good morals having a wide application. But morals apart, the most glaring fact is the inability of the public to protect itself from dangers and calamities which are distinctly

foreseen, and deliberately calculated in advance.

ENGINES OF HARBOR DEFENCE.

The recent trials of the Lay torpedo in the Bosphorus have an important bearing upon naval warfare and harbor defence. This locomotive submarine mine has been greatly improved since it was first tested in American waters. The electric wire, instead of being coiled from the shore battery or firing point as the torpedo proceeds on its errand of destruction, is paid out easily and loosely from the moving mine. The steering apparatus has practically ceased to be a drag upon the movements of the torpedo. At the same time the velocity has been materially increased, the torpedoes recently supplied to the Russian Government having attained a speed of twelve and a half knots an hour, and the disturbance on the surface of the water caused by its passage has been diminished by the substitution of two small screws for the large one. In the Bosphorus the improved torpedo of this type was not used, but one making only nine knots an hour; and it was rendered unnecessarily conspicuous in order that the Sultan might watch its progress from the windows of his palace, a red flag being attached to the foremost guide-rope. The hunting not only caught the eye of the observer, but every gust of wind as well as the consequence being a dip forward by which the screw was raised and the disturbance of the water increased. The torpedo was not, therefore, tested under favorable conditions for demonstrating its highest degree of invisibility and its maximum speed. Hobart, the Anglo-Turkish Admiral, writes to *The London Times* that among the naval and military critics who witnessed the experiments there was some disappointment expressed in respect to these two points, but there was and could be only one opinion as to the accuracy of the steering and the facility with which the torpedo was manoeuvred in the currents—it was considered perfect.

As the trials are described in detail by a naval correspondent of the same journal, it is apparent that the American torpedo was tested under conditions which would have been fatal to the success of the Whitehead torpedo. At the southern outlet of the Bosphorus there are strong currents running in opposite directions, with eddies and a “choppy sea.” In such waters the Whitehead torpedo could not have been controlled from shore, inasmuch as the effect of the currents, changing hourly with the tide and the wind, could not have been calculated in advance. A high wind rendered the conditions exceptionally unfavorable, great difficulty being experienced in moving the cutters used in the trials. The torpedo, being subjected to these extreme tests, was steered directly through the opening between the cutters to a target 100 yards beyond, where it turned around and returned to the starting point on land over a mile distant. The strongest current and the heaviest sea could not divert it from its course, and it was every instant completely under the control of the operator on shore. Even the English critics, prejudiced as they were in favor of the Whitehead torpedo, were forced to admit that if Mr. Lay could maintain his guarantee of increased speed and the immersion of the entire torpedo with the exception of the guide-rope, he had devised a most formidable engine of harbor defence, which could be used even where currents and tides were strongest and most changeable. The electrical steering apparatus, which gives to this torpedo its chief advantage over the Whitehead, was shown to be as available on the darkest night as in the day-time. The action of the torpedo was perfect after nightfall, the guide-rope carrying two small lamps visible to the operator's telescope, but screened by shades from observation in the opposite quarter.

The advance in torpedo systems of offence and defence made by American and European inventors during the last decade has tended to diminish the value of naval armaments. If the hastily constructed earthworks and crumbling fortifications of Alexandria could not be battered down without a ten hours' bombardment, how helpless those ironclads would have been if they had been exposed to attack from an invisible fleet of torpedo boats used in connection with stationary mines and well-manned shore batteries! Not only does the torpedo system provide an adequate means of obstructing the passage of a hostile fleet of inflexible, devastating and Thunderers, through a strait like the Dardanelles, or into a harbor like that of Alexandria or New-York, but it renders these iron-plated monsters vulnerable. If the sides and bottoms of these ships can still be materially strengthened, the torpedoes can be more heavily charged with dynamite, although they already carry 150 pounds with ease; and in a struggle between the protective qualities of iron and steel and the destructive properties of explosives, there can be only one issue. It cannot be seriously questioned that the day for building great ironclads has gone by. It is not worth while for any Government to expend millions upon a single ironclad, which is not only unmanageable in rough water, but with the aid of electricity and dynamite can be sent to the bottom by the movement of one man's hand on a tiny keyboard a mile or more away. In the tactics of the future the big gun will be mounted on a small floating carriage and a fleet will be built for what one great ironclad now costs.

PERSONAL.

The Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks has so far recovered his health as to be able to walk out upon the street.

The Rev. Henry Vanduyke, Jr., who has assumed the pastorate of the Brick Presbyterian Church in this city, will be succeeded in his former charge, the United Congregational Church, New-York, by the Rev. F. F. Emerson, of Amherst, Mass.

Miss Jessie F. Detenon, sister of Adelaide Detenon, the actress, is the first woman who has ever received the degree of D. D. S., at the Philadelphia Dental College. She has now begun the practice of her profession in that city.

The Emperor and Empress of Germany have addressed autograph letters of thanks to the veteran Professor Leopold von Banks for the third volume of his new work, “A Universal History,” which he presented to them as a Christmas gift.

Sir Hickman Bacon, the premier Baronet of England, is seriously ill and has been sent by his physicians to Madeira. He is a member of the same family that produced the illustrious author of the “Novum Organum.”

Sir Tatton Sykes, who has recently gone over to the Roman Catholic Church, and will build a cathedral in Westminster, is a strict vegetarian, and restricts his personal expenditures to the narrowest possible limits, not because of parsimony but for the sake of generosity in charities.

Mr. Lennox Boyd, ancestor whom the Moors, Chauderians have brought their great libel suit, is a well-known member of English society. For many years he was resident director in London of a prominent insurance company, and he is now one of the oldest members of the Reform Club.

The Duke of Buccleugh, although one of the most liberal and considerate of English landlords, has now seven farms, aggregating 2,400 acres, vacant on his Northamptonshire estate. They are all in excellent order and well situated. Certainly this is significant of bad times among English farmers.

The notorious Anglosy divorce suit, that has long been a theme of gossip and scandal in London, has at last been settled out of court, terms of separation having been mutually agreed upon, and Lady Anglosy having relinquished all claim to her husband in the Rue Fortin, Paris, which will now be sold.

Miss Barkin, sister of Mr. Thomas Barkin, who was murdered so foully in Phoenix Park, Dublin, has at last recovered her health and mental balance, which were both seriously impaired by her bereavement. She now lives with her surviving brother, Colonel Barkin, in London, and will never visit Dublin again, to the great loss of that city, where she was always foremost in every charitable work.

Galleguin's Messenger advises all Americans visiting Paris to take a look at the interesting collection of portraits of their distinguished countrymen in Mr. G. P. Healey's studio. Among them are portraits of Abraham Lincoln, Daniel Webster, John Lottrop Motley, Generals Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, Admiral Porter, Father Hecker, and many others. There are also fine portraits, painted by Mr. Healey, of the King of Roumania, Lord Lyons, the Comte de Paris, the Comte de Lesseps, and Miss Lillian Norton (Miss Nordica), as *Harper's* “Familiar Faces” has called her, and a host of other famous and will be placed in the next issue.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 11.—Information has been received by the British Consul here that her Majesty's ship *Dido* will probably arrive at Charleston on Monday next. The Consul has received no direct news of the movements of the Princess Louise, but it is surmised that the *Dido* has been ordered to touch at this port to await the arrival of the Princess here and to convey her to Bermuda, as was at first contemplated.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 11.—Archbishop Wood is not seriously ill, as has been reported. He was in his office to-day, and while he is not able to bear the fatigue of continuous work, no apprehension is felt as to his condition.

GENERAL NOTES.

An oak whose rings showed it to be 120 years old was cut down in Buckport, Me., on Monday, and embedded in its trunk at the eighth ring, a point which was at the surface forty years ago, the woodpecker found, to his amazement, a diamond pin containing twenty-four brilliants in a silver setting. Nobody knows where it was or can imagine how it came to be where it was found. This is a tough story. Can it be possible that the diamond pin, containing twenty-four brilliants, was a part of a watch which was lost in the forest, and that the woodpecker, in pecking its way through the wood, had discovered it?

The defaulting Treasurer of Tennessee and the companions of his flight went about New-Orleans, through which they passed on their way to Texas, with extraordinary expense and discomfort, carrying their recent misfortune for escape. They drove from bank to a restaurant, thence to a gun store, afterward to a barber shop, a drug-store and a hotel, and finally to the station, staying in each place a considerable time and even addressing each other by their real names with little or no attempt at disguise. Polk was recognized by several persons and among others, by ex-Chief of Police Royall, but the latter did not detain them, as he had no authority to do so. The defaulting Treasurer reached New-Orleans just too late for his arrest.

A twenty-five pound tom-cat long and favorably known on Washington-st. wharf, San Francisco, where he was born, reared and ensconced in the affections of his owner, deliberately committed suicide on January 3 by laying his head upon the pavement and holding it there until an express wagon had rolled over it. A number of spectators are willing to swear that the act was premeditated and intentional, and several persons now remember that the cat had shown previous symptoms of insanity. He had, moreover, undertaken to commit suicide several times before in a similar way but lost courage at the last moment and fled from the approaching wheels of the express wagon.

An Indian whose musical Spanish name translated into English was “Long Hilda,” died his own act on December 14 at the Hotel de Castille, Lower California. “Long Hilda” was a modern Mexican; there is every reason to believe that he left his first century behind him long ago, and the people who had known him all their lives stoutly declare that he must have been 150 years old. He was well and active until about a year ago, but since then he has been only to crawl around. December 14 was a cold day in Lower California, and his friends carried “Long Hilda” to his bed. But the old man had had enough of life, and setting his brush house on fire he crawled into the flames. A stout young Indian who had been driven into the ground at the spot where he was lying and held on to it until he was burned to death.

“Harmless as doves” is now thought to London not to be an accurate comparison. The Post-Office authorities consider a serious nuisance by perching on telegraph wires; householders have many a bill to pay for mortar which they have pecked away; at the British Museum persistent but only partly successful efforts have been made to get rid of them; at the Royal Exchange the authorities have gone so far as to issue a notice to the effect that any bird which is seen perching on the roof of the building is liable to a fine of five pounds. The authorities are likely to afford a lodgment for their unrelenting guests; and nowhere, it appears, are they in lawful possession excepting, perhaps, at the Guildhall, where for several years past they have been allowed to roost in the tower with peace in order to establish the right of the corporation to prosecute those who treat the birds with cruelty.

The Turkish Government always claims by stipulation that the sculptures found by the archaeologists when it purchased the Colossus of Rhodes, Austrian archaeologists had the luck not long ago to find at Galkhake, opposite the island of Rhodes, a museum of great importance, and to recover almost the entire sculptural decorations, consisting of reliefs of subjects from the “Odyssey,” combats of the usual character of the best time of Greek art, Greeks with Amazons, with Asiatas, etc., the whole of which, though cut in a sandstone not so hard as the Colossus, are in excellent condition. As soon as the importance of the discovery was known in Constantinople a telegram was sent forbidding the separation of the sculptures, but the Austrians chose to interpret this to their own advantage, and immediately shipped all the treasures to Vienna.

A case of suspended animation closely resembling that of a mouse much interested in Washington. Last Sunday morning a Mrs. Reacan living on First-st., near the Government Printing Office, was on her way to attend early mass at St. Aloysius's Church when she suddenly became too faint to proceed. She turned back and succeeded in reaching her home, where she lay insensible on the floor. Her family thought that she was dead, and so did a priest who was instantly summoned, but the doctor supposed it to be a case of suspended animation and sent out for restoratives. The priest went to the church where, after mass, he spoke of the woman's sudden death and offered prayers for the repose of her soul. Meanwhile she had revived and described her sensations. She said that she was conscious of voices and of red and black lights, and that the priest had been speaking to her. In an agony of apprehension she strove to move or speak but her muscles would not obey her will. When the restoratives were given she revived, and when she came to she found herself lying on the floor, and when she came to she found herself lying on the floor, and when she came to she found herself lying on the floor.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Democratic comment on the Polk deflection in Tennessee is concerned only with its effect upon the party. The right or wrong of the transaction disturbs them very little. In their view it is only another blotter, like the Civil Service bill, which has been put upon the table. If they can only prevent it from destroying the confidence they imagine the people have displayed in the Democratic party, the creditors can “whistle” for the rest.

Next week balloting begins in several of the States for United States Senators, and it will be quickly discovered how severely some aspirants have been straining their imagination in calculating their strength. More than one Legislature has been counted over several times, if the figures given by candidates are a criterion. The country was never so rich in promising Senatorial numbers as it is to-day, and it is well to think that in a few weeks at the farthest most of it will never be known again outside of cross